



Missouri Department of Higher Education  
College Personnel Webinar  
August 9, 2019

# Today's Webinar

- ▶ PLEASE keep your phone or computer microphone MUTED
- ▶ Submit questions via the chat function during the webinar
- ▶ Tell us who you are
- ▶ A link to the recorded webinar will be sent out via email

# Agenda

- ▶ Program Overview
- ▶ Administrative Rule
- ▶ Approved Programs
- ▶ Student Experience
- ▶ School Experience
- ▶ Department “Asks”
- ▶ Questions

# Fast Track Program Overview

- ▶ Governor Parson signed Senate Bill 68 (Sen. Hough) on July 10.
  - ▶ Implementation in 2019-20 academic year.
- ▶ Helps meet Missouri's Big Goal of 60 percent of working-age adults having a high quality certificate or degree by 2025

# Fast Track Program Overview

- ▶ Opens doors for adults seeking training and meaningful workforce participation
  - ▶ Individuals pursuing a certificate, degree, or industry-recognized credential in an area designated as high need
- ▶ Benefits Missouri
  - ▶ Must live and work in MO after graduation to prevent grant from becoming a loan

# Fast Track Program Overview

- ▶ FY 2020 Funding
  - ▶ \$10 million from Lottery
  - ▶ Lottery funding limits participation to public institutions for current fiscal year
  - ▶ Priority established by earliest Fast Track application date
    - ▶ Renewal students will have priority beginning in FY 2021
- ▶ FY 2021
  - ▶ Request for full funding (all programs/institutions)

# Fast Track Program Overview

- ▶ Program includes Missouri residency and work requirements
  - ▶ One year grace period to find employment after graduation
  - ▶ Requires full-time employment or self-employment within Missouri for three years
- ▶ Failure to fulfill residency/work requirement results in conversion to loan
  - ▶ Federal DSL interest rate
  - ▶ 10 year loan period

# Administrative Rule

- ▶ Draft to State Aid listserv 7/31/19
  - ▶ Comments due 8/9/19
- ▶ To CBHE for approval 9/11/19
- ▶ Approximately 6-month rulemaking process (Secretary of State)
  - ▶ 30-day public comment period
  - ▶ Effective Spring 2020



# Approved Programs

- ▶ CBHE approved Fast Track programs 6/5/19
- ▶ Limited initial roll-out
  - ▶ STEM and STEM-related (including Agriculture)
  - ▶ Teacher Education
- ▶ Programs in other subject areas still under review
- ▶ Approved programs by institution available on Fast Track web page
  - ▶ Non-credit and career/tech center programs to be added soon

# For Students

Student

Apply/Receive 1<sup>st</sup> Loan Disclosure & Self-Certification Form



MDHE

Review Eligibility/  
Notify School if  
Eligible/Update  
Eligibility in Portal



School

Certify  
Eligibility/  
Award  
Info/Loan  
Counseling



Return Self-Certification  
form & P-note w/Award  
Accepted/Reduced/Declined



Verify Eligibility/  
Calculate Award/  
Send 2nd Disclosure &  
Promissory Note to  
Student



Notify school of  
pending  
disbursement/  
Disburse award/Send  
3rd Disclosure



Deliver award to student

# For Students: Application

## ► Student Portal - Estimate Eligibility tab

### **Eligibility Estimator/Apply**

The Missouri Department of Higher Education administers several grant and scholarship programs. Follow the prompts below to learn more about a specific program, submit your application, or upload verification documents to finalize an application. Use the State Aid Eligibility Estimator to see if you're eligible for any State Aid programs. Select an academic year to get started.

Note: You must have at least one school choice selected for the academic year in which you are trying to estimate eligibility. **Select a school choice [here](#).**

2019-2020

**Start a new State Aid Eligibility Estimator**

or click a specific program below

A+ Scholarship Program	<a href="#">Learn more</a>	
Access Missouri Financial Assistance Program	<a href="#">Learn more</a>	
Advanced Placement Incentive Grant	<a href="#">Learn more</a>	<a href="#">Apply</a>
Bright Flight Scholarship Program	<a href="#">Learn more</a>	
<b>Fast Track Workforce Incentive Grant</b>	<a href="#">Learn more</a>	<b><a href="#">Apply</a></b>
Kids' Chance Scholarship	<a href="#">Learn more</a>	



# For Students: Application

## ► Program Overview

### Application for the Fast Track Workforce Incentive Grant

The Fast Track Workforce Incentive Grant is a program designed to provide adult students with the education and skills needed to enter the workforce in occupational fields that are in high demand. Through this program, students enrolled in designated programs of study at participating schools receive grants to assist with tuition and general fees. For students who meet all of the program's obligations, the grant will not have to be repaid. However, for students who fail to meet all of the program's obligations, the grant will convert to a loan that must be repaid, with interest.

The Missouri Department of Higher Education will use the application information below to determine your eligibility for the Fast Track Workforce Incentive Grant. To be eligible you must:

- Be either:
  - At least 25 years old, or
  - Have not attended high school or a postsecondary school in the last two years
- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident
- Be a Missouri resident
- Have filed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Have either a federal adjusted gross income of:
  - \$80,000 or less if your tax filing status is married filing jointly, or
  - \$40,000 or less for any other tax filing status
- Enroll in an eligible program at least half-time. The Program of Study field below includes only the Fast Track eligible programs at the selected school. If your program is not listed it may be available at a different school.
- Have not yet received a bachelor's degree

**Note:** Only Fast Track participating schools are available in the Name of Institution field.

\* Indicates a required field.

All student demographic fields (except for Social security number) are updateable on My Profile tab.



# For Students: Application

- ▶ Demographic Information
- ▶ Cell phone required to receive texts when eligibility changes

\*Social security number (To update, contact MDHE):

\*Date of birth:

\*First name:

\*Last name:

Middle Initial:

\*Address:

\* City:

\* State:

\*Zip code:

Cell phone number:

\*Email address:

Home phone number:

# For Students: Application

- ▶ Program Information
- ▶ Program of study specific to institution and location (site) selected

\*Name of institution:

Select an institution

\*Location:

Select location

\*Program of study: ⓘ

Select program of study

\*Degree level:

Select Degree Level

\*Program start date:

MM/YYYY

\*Last date enrolled in a high school or postsecondary program:

MM/YYYY

# For Students: Application

- ▶ 3 References (same information required for all)
- ▶ 2 required, 3<sup>rd</sup> optional

## References:

Please include information for at least two references. At least one reference must be a non-family member.

*First name:	*Last name:	Middle initial:
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
*Address:	*City:	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
*State:	*Zip code:	*Phone number:
<input type="text" value="Select state"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Email address:		
<input type="text"/>		

# For Students: Application

- ▶ Truth in Lending Disclosure & Self-Certification Form
- ▶ Application Certification Statement
- ▶ Optional promotional activities agreement

To complete your application you must take the following steps:

1. Read and acknowledge this [Loan Disclosure](#), which provides information about potential costs and other loan information. Additional disclosures with more specific information will be provided if you are awarded and receive Fast Track funding.

☒ \* I have read and understand the Loan Disclosure information provided.

2. Download and complete this [Self-Certification form](#). If you are eligible for an award, it cannot be disbursed until this form is returned to:

Missouri Department of Higher Education  
Attn: Fast Track  
PO Box 1469  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-1469

■ \* By checking this box I, the applicant, am signing the application and certifying that the information contained in this application is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. As to any award made to me as a result of this application, I hereby authorize the participating school to pay to the Missouri Department of Higher Education (MDHE) any refund which may be due me up to the amount of the award. I further authorize any participating school that I may attend or any of my employers to release to the MDHE, or their agents, any requested information pertinent to the conversion of this grant to a loan (e.g., employment status, enrollment status, current address). I certify that the proceeds of any grant made as a result of this application will be used for educational purposes for the academic period covered by this application at the participating school named on this form. I further certify I do not owe a refund or repayment on any Title IV financial assistance programs included in the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, and I have not defaulted, or am not in default, on any education loan. I understand that I must be enrolled, or have been accepted for enrollment, in a Fast Track designated program at least half-time at a participating institution. I further understand that this grant will convert to a loan that must be repaid with interest if I do not qualify for, or comply with, the employment and residency provisions and the obligations of the program.

■ (Optional) I am willing to participate in promotional opportunities and MDHE may contact me for this purpose.



# For Students: Eligibility Status

- ▶ Student Portal - My Eligibility/Awards Tab
- ▶ Text or email sent when eligibility status changes, if requested during registration

## Current Eligibility

## Payments

## FAFSA Details

## ACT/SAT Details

## Other status details

### 2019-2020 Estimated Awards at Lincoln University

Program	Eligibility	Renewal status	Estimated fall	Estimated spring	Estimated Total
Access Missouri Financial Assistance Program	Ineligible	Yes	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Advanced Placement Incentive Grant	Eligible	No			\$500.00
Bright Flight Scholarship Program	Eligible	Yes	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00
Fast Track Workforce Incentive Grant	Incomplete	No	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program	DHE Review	No	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Wartime Veteran's Survivors Grant	DHE Review	No	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

\*Actual award amounts are subject to many factors, including other financial aid you may receive and eligibility status. Please contact your financial aid office for more details.

\*For A+ and Marguerite Ross Barnett Scholarships, eligibility and awards are determined by the school. Contact your school for more information.

# For Students: Required Documents

- ▶ Fast Track Application
- ▶ FAFSA
- ▶ Truth in Lending Act Loan Disclosures
  - ▶ Application
  - ▶ Award
  - ▶ Disbursement

# For Students: Required Documents

## ▶ Self-Certification Form

- ▶ Required for private loans
- ▶ Must be completed (with school help if needed) & returned before each disbursement
- ▶ Available on application and Fast Track web page

## ▶ Promissory Note

- ▶ Required for every disbursement in case grant converts to a loan
- ▶ Must be notarized

# For Schools

- ▶ Program Participation Agreements
  - ▶ Mailed to Financial Aid Directors in early September
  - ▶ Must be signed by the president or a designee
    - ▶ If designee, must include documentation of the designation
  - ▶ To be in place prior to first disbursements in October

# For Schools: Eligibility Certification

**Step 1:** Receive email from MDHE with list of potentially eligible students

**Step 2:** Verify student eligibility

- ▶ Missouri resident
- ▶ U.S. citizen or permanent resident
- ▶ Enrolled at least half-time in a Fast Track eligible program
- ▶ 25 years or older or out of school for at least 2 years

# For Schools: Eligibility Certification

## Step 2: Verify student eligibility (cont.)

- ▶ No changes in AGI affecting eligibility
- ▶ No prior bachelor's degree
- ▶ Has not exceeded
  - ▶ Four semesters or equivalent
  - ▶ 200% of the typical completion timeframe
- ▶ No circumstance preventing receipt of federal Title IV aid
- ▶ 2.5 GPA/SAP for renewal students

# For Schools: Eligibility Certification

**Step 3:** Conduct Loan Counseling

**Step 4:** Complete certification file for upload to MDHE

- ▶ Available on website
- ▶ Excel spreadsheet - Save as CSV
- ▶ Includes award calculation data
  - ▶ Program, enrollment level, other aid, etc.
  - ▶ MDHE will calculate award
- ▶ Award components are payment period specific

# For Schools: Eligibility Certification

**Step 5:** Upload certification CSV file into FAMOUS

- ▶ Successful records process regardless if errors
- ▶ Error file provides fields to be corrected

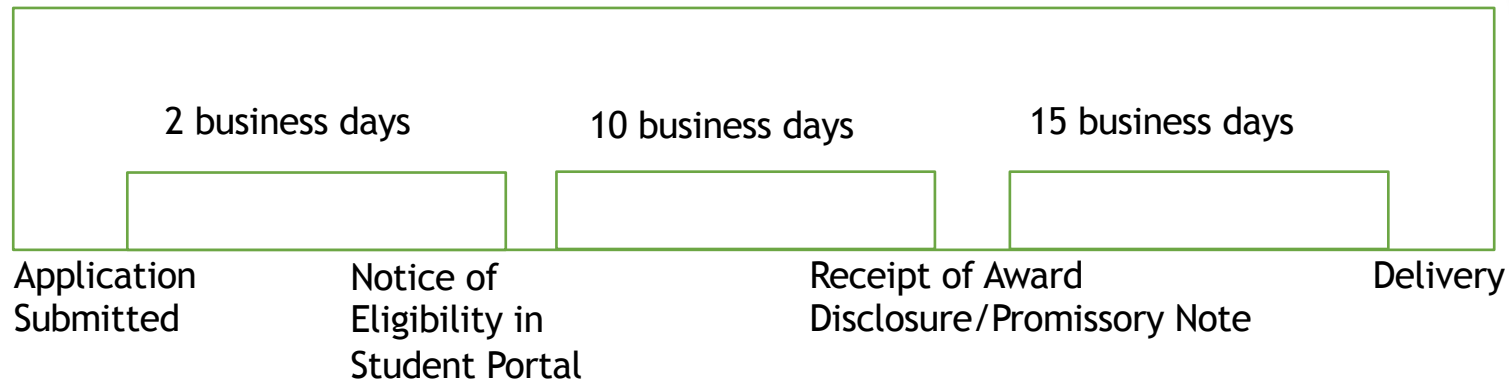


# For Schools: Payment

- ▶ Pre-disbursement report
  - ▶ Based on signed promissory notes
  - ▶ May not match disbursement report if some loans cancelled
- ▶ Disbursement
  - ▶ Through FAMOUS
  - ▶ After cancellation period and standard 3-5 business day process
  - ▶ Disbursement Report available in FAMOUS
- ▶ Returns
  - ▶ Same process as other FAMOUS programs

# Estimated Time from Application to Disbursement (Minimal automation)

27 business days



Assumes all communication, including submission of promissory note, is electronic. Allows for 5 business days for school certification and 5 business days for MDHE to verify eligibility/create award disclosure and promissory note. Allows for 10 business day cancellation period and 5 business day state payment process. Assumes delivery will occur on date funds are received.

# Asks

1. Identify a Fast Track student contact for your school
2. Send information to your stop-outs
3. Please be patient with us this first year

# Questions?

## Program Operations

Connie Bestgen, Financial Aid Specialist

(800) 473-6757, option 4  
(573) 751-1772

[connie.bestgen@dhe.mo.gov](mailto:connie.bestgen@dhe.mo.gov)

Amy Haller, Financial Aid Specialist

(573) 526-7958 [amy.haller@dhe.mo.gov](mailto:amy.haller@dhe.mo.gov)

Kelli Reed, Senior Associate

(573) 751-2444 [kelli.reed@dhe.mo.gov](mailto:kelli.reed@dhe.mo.gov)

## Student Inquiries

Marilyn Landrum

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